WHAT ARE CLAIMED ARE:

1. A music data providing apparatus, comprising:

a storage device that stores music data in a musical performance data event format;

5 a receiver that receives a request for providing music data and a setting parameter from a user via a network;

a converter that, in accordance with the received request and setting parameter, reads the music data in a musical performance data event format from the storage device and converts the read music data

10 into music data in an audio data format; and

a transmitter that transmits the converted music data in an audio data format to the user.

2. A music data providing apparatus according to claim 1,

15 wherein the setting parameter is at least one of a parameter for selecting stereophonic or monophonic, a parameter for selecting a sound quality, a parameter for selecting a data format, a parameter for selecting a tempo, a parameter for setting a key, a parameter relating to an effect process, a parameter relating to a tone color, a parameter

20 relating to loudness of a tone, a parameter for selecting a musical performance part and a parameter for selecting a musical performance section.

3. A music data receiving apparatus, comprising:

25 a transmitter that requests conversion of music data in a musical performance data event format into music data in an audio data

format and transmission of the converted music data by transmitting a request for providing music data and a setting parameter to a server storing music data in a musical performance data event format via a network; and

5   a receiver that receives music data in an audio data format converted in accordance with the transmitted request and setting parameter via the network.

4.   A music data providing apparatus according to claim 3,
10 wherein the setting parameter is at least one of a parameter for selecting stereophonic or monophonic, a parameter for selecting a sound quality, a parameter for selecting a data format, a parameter for selecting a tempo, a parameter for setting a key, a parameter relating to an effect process, a parameter relating to a tone color, a parameter
15 relating to loudness of a tone, a parameter for selecting a musical performance part and a parameter for selecting a musical performance section.

5.   A music data receiving apparatus, comprising:
20   a transmitter that requests transmission of music data in a musical performance data by transmitting a request for providing music data to a server storing music data in a musical performance data event format via a network;

        a receiver that receives music data in a musical performance
25 data event format provided in accordance with the transmitted request via the network;

a temporal storage device that temporally stores the received music data in a musical performance data event format;

an input device that inputs a setting parameter for the received music data in a musical performance data event format;

5   a converter that converts the music data stored in the temporal storage device into music data in an audio data format in accordance with the input setting parameter; and

a deleting device that deletes the music data in a musical performance data event format stored in the temporal storage device

10   automatically after the conversion of the converter.

6.   A music data providing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the setting parameter is at least one of a parameter for selecting stereophonic or monophonic, a parameter for selecting a

15   sound quality, a parameter for selecting a data format, a parameter for selecting a tempo, a parameter for setting a key, a parameter relating to an effect process, a parameter relating to a tone color, a parameter relating to loudness of a tone, a parameter for selecting a musical performance part and a parameter for selecting a musical performance

20   section.

7.   A program, which a computer storing music data in a musical performance data event format executes to realize a music data providing process, comprising the instructions for:

25   (a) receiving a request for providing music data and a setting parameter from a user via a network;

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(b) reading, the music data in a musical performance data event format in accordance with the received request;

(c) converting the read music data into music data in an audio data format in accordance with the received setting parameter; and

5 (d) transmitting the converted music data in an audio data format to the user.

8. A program, which a computer executes to realize a music data receiving process, comprising the instructions for:

10 (a) requesting conversion of music data in a musical performance data event format into music data in an audio data format and transmission of the converted music data by transmitting a request for providing music data and a setting parameter to a server storing music data in a musical performance data event format via a network; 15 and

(b) receiving music data in an audio data format converted in accordance with the transmitted request and setting parameter via the network.

20 9. A program, which a computer executes to realize a music data receiving process, comprising the instructions for:

(a) requesting transmission of music data in a musical performance data by transmitting a request for providing music data to a server storing music data in a musical performance data event format 25 via a network;

(b) receiving music data in a musical performance data event

format provided in accordance with the transmitted request via the network;

(c) temporally storing the received music data in a musical performance data event format;

(d) inputting a setting parameter for the received music data in a musical performance data event format;

(e) converting the temporally stored music data into music data in an audio data format in accordance with the input setting parameter; and

(f) deleting the temporally stored music data in a musical performance data event format automatically after the conversion at the converting step (e).